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NASA CR103439

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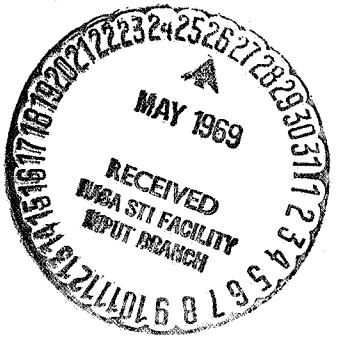
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Contract No.NAS-5-12487

ST—PR—PS—10836

CASE FILE COPY

AUTOMATIC STATION "VENERA-5" SMOOTHLY DESCENDED IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF VENUS

STATION "VENERA-6" APPROACHES ITS TARGET



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(Communique Tass)

19 MAY 1969

A/A 5/20/69

ST—PR—PS—10836

AUTOMATIC STATION "VENERA-5" SMOOTHLY DESCENDED IN THE ATMOSPHERE OF VENUS

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STATION " VENERA-6" APPROACHES ITS TARGET

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COMMUNIQUE TASS

Having overcome in the course of 130 days of flight, a distance covering nearly 350,000,000 kilometers, the interplanetary station "VENERA-5" successfully completed its interplanetary course, effecting a soft landing in the atmosphere of planet VENUS on 16 May 1969.

The station delivered to Venus pennants with bas-relief of V. I. Lenin and USSR coat of arms.

Regular radiocommunication was sustained with the station during its course along the heliocentrical orbit. Maneuvering in outer space was performed by the station on command from Earth. A wide range of scientific investigations concerning the physical processes taking place in outer space along the flight path were conducted with the aid of instrumentations installed on board the automatic station.

The obtained scientific information and the data on station's systems operation was uninterruptedly transmitted to the Center of Remote Cosmic Communication. On 16 May 1969 at 0708 hours Moscow Time the automatic station "VENERA-5" approached planet Venus by a distance of 50,000 kilometers.

At that moment of time command was transmitted from Earth about the beginning of the concluding session of interplanetary radiocommunication.

The descending apparatus with scientific measurement devices on board was automatically separated from the station prior to "VENERA-5" entry into the planet's atmosphere. Aerodynamic braking of the descending apparatus in the atmosphere Venus has begun at 0901 hours, and was attended by sharp increase of overloads and substantial rise of temperature on the external surface of the apparatus.

As a result of aerodynamic braking the velocity of the descending apparatus dropped from 11.17 km/sec to 210 m/sec, time at which the parachute system was set into action.

During apparatus' descent on parachute, which lasted 53 minutes, the following parameters of Venus' atmosphere were measured with the aid of the onboard instruments: temperature, pressure and chemical composition. A radioaltimeter determined the apparatus' height above the planet's surface.

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(*) Textual translation

The onboard complex assured the uninterrupted transmission of these measurements to the ground.

The obtained important scientific data on the atmosphere of planet Venus are being processed in the Institutes of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

While station "VENERA-5" successfully completed its flight, the automatic interplanetary station "VENERA-6", launched on 10 January 1969, approaches the planet and is expected to enter its atmosphere on 17 May 1969 at 0903 hours.

Thus still one more glorious page was contributed by Soviet science and technology to the history of outer space mastering.

The program of Soviet Union on the investigation of outer space and of planets of the Solar System is sucessfully fulfilled.

Pennants delivered by AIS "VENERA-5"
to Venus' surface

CONTRACT No.NAS-5-12487
VOLT INFORMATION SCIENCES, INC.
1145 - 19th St.NW
WASHINGTON D.C. 20036.

Translated by ANDRE L. BRICHANT
on 19 MAY 1969
from Newspaper "PRAVDA" NO.137
of 17 MAY 1969